

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 IO-13 ACDA-07 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 TRSE-00 /072 W
-----132006Z 058912 /50

O O 131938Z APR 77 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7367
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 06427

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, EC, FR, GE, GW, UR, US, UK, WB
SUBJECT: BERLIN MODALITIES FOR RESPONDING TO SOVIETS
ON MARCH 10 STATEMENT AND EC DIRECT ELECTIONS

REFS: (A) MOSCOW 4860: (B) PARIS 10420

BEGIN SUMMARY: BONN GROUP HAS REACHED AD REF AGREEMENT
THAT THE ALLIED DEMARCHE TO THE SOVIETS SHOULD BE MADE
AT THE KOVALEV LEVEL. ACTION REQUEST:
DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZATION TO EMBASSY MOS-
COW TO PROCEED. END SUMMARY.

1. IN APRIL 13 MEETING, BONN GROUP DISCUSSED THE QUES-
TION OF AT WHAT LEVEL THE ALLIED DEMARCHE SHOULD BE MADE
IN MOSCOW.

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2. UK REP (EYERS) SAID THAT LONDON WOULD PREFER THE
DEMARCHE BE MADE AT THE BONDARENKO LEVEL FOR A VARIETY
OF REASONS:

-- THE REPLY SHOULD BE AS LOW KEY AS POSSIBLE AS WE
WISH TO AVOID ESCALATING THE SITUATION;

-- BONDARENKO WAS APPROPRIATE BECAUSE HE REPORTS
DIRECTLY TO GROMYKO ON BERLIN MATTERS;

-- KUZNETSOV WAS TOO HIGH A LEVEL PARTICULARLY AS WE
MAY WANT TO RAISE THE TOPIC AT A HIGHER LEVEL LATER;

-- AT THE KOVALEV LEVEL, ALLIED AMBASSADORS WOULD
EACH BE MEETING WITH A DIFFERENT OFFICIAL DUE TO THE
ORGANIZATION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

EYERS ADDED THAT LONDON FELT THE QUESTION SHOULD BE
REVIEWED IN CAPITALS FOLLOWING DISCUSSION IN THE BONN
GROUP.

3. FRENCH REP (DE BOISSIEU) SAID THAT THE QUAI CONTIN-
UES TO INSIST ON SOMETHING LIKE THE KOVALEV LEVEL, FOR
THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

-- THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR DOES NOT SEE DIRECTORS IN
THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE
SOVIETS ARE ALWAYS TRYING TO FORCE THEM DOWN TO THAT
LEVEL;

-- TWO REPLIES ARE TO BE GIVEN. IN PARTICULAR, THE
SOVIETS WOULD NOT TAKE THE ALLIED REPLY TO THEIR MARCH
10 STATEMENT SERIOUSLY IF IT WERE DONE AT THE BONDARENKO
LEVEL;

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-- THE ISSUES ARE IMPORTANT. IN THAT REGARD, WE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 06427

SHOULD GIVE A SIGNAL TO THE SOVIETS IN ADVANCE OF THE INTRODUCTION INTO THE BUNDESTAG OF THE FRG LEGISLATION ON DIRECT ELECTIONS.

3. U.S. REP SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD (REF A) THAT OUR PREFERENCE REMAINED THE KUZNETSOV LEVEL.

4. FRG REP (HENZE) STRESSED THE FRG'S INTEREST THAT A HIGH LEVEL BE USED. THE ALLIED REPLIES SHOULD NOT LOOK LIKE "DOING OUR DUTY." THE BONDARENKO LEVEL WOULD MEAN NOTHING. THEREFORE, HE ASSOCIATED THE FRG WITH THE FRENCH AND AMERICAN POSITIONS INsofar AS IT SHOULD NOT BE DELIVERED TO BONDARENKO.

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5. AT THAT POINT, EYERS SAID THAT HE HAD DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY FROM LONDON TO COME TO AGREEMENT ON THE QUESTION OF LEVEL AND TO ACCEPT AN ALLIED DEMARCHE AT KOVALEV LEVEL.

6. BONN GROUP THEN AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO CAPITALS THAT THE DEMARCHE BE MADE AT THE KOVALEV LEVEL. COMMENT: MOSCOW'S 4979 WAS RECEIVED AFTER BONN GROUP MEETING. AT THE MEETING, EYERS SAID THAT LONDON WANTED THE DIFFERENCE OF OPINION TO BE IRONED OUT IN THE BONN GROUP AND, IN THAT REGARD, HAD NOT GIVEN UK EMBASSY IN MOSCOW THE DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO SUCH A COMPROMISE. AS TO THE ARGUMENT THAT THE KOVALEV LEVEL WOULD ENTAIL SEEING DIFFERENT PEOPLE, DE BOISSIEU SAID THAT WAS LESS IMPORTANT THAN A DEMARCHE AT A HIGH

LEVEL.

SINCE FRANCE AND UK ARE PREPARED TO MAKE DEMARCHE
AT KOVALEV LEVEL, WE BELIEVE THAT THIS IS REASONABLE
COMPROMISE. END COMMENT

7. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE DEPARTMENT APPROVE
DEMARCHE AT KOVALEV LEVEL AND AUTHORIZE EMBASSY MOSCOW
TO PROCEED FOLLOWING ALLIED COORDINATION IN MOSCOW.
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Message Attributes

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